

# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 10

January 22, 1999

David Geeslin

Buddy System Project

Mike Jackson



Here is a challenge!

Can elementary students read over 4,000 books collectively? I am issuing a personal

challenge to all elementary students to read over 4,000 books as a group beginning Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> and ending June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kindergarten and first graders will retell the stories about the books they have read back to their teachers. Second through fifth graders will write a book report. We will make a chain (each title will be a "link" in the chain) for each book read and hang it up in the hallway. If the students accomplish the goal to read over 4,000 books, I will shave my head! Yes, I will do that. Why? My belief is that literacy skills are the priority for our students. The ability to communicate your ideas clearly to others through signing and writing is very important. Also, reading definitely broadens the Deaf student's accessibilities to all the resources that are available in printed English (closed captioning, TTY, writing notes, etc)

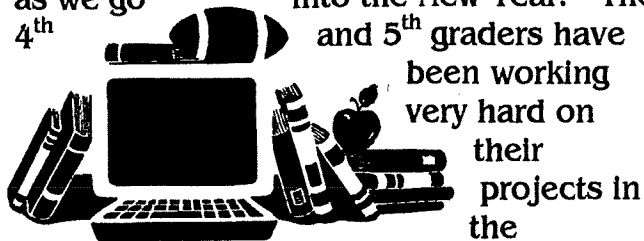
Please congratulate those students who participated in the Good Citizenship Party last Tuesday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. They earned the privilege to participate because they were all on the honor roll and had not ever been sent to the Student Responsibility Center (SRC). This time, I waived the perfect attendance part of the requirement due to the inclement weather.

## Good Citizenship Party attendees:

Tony Dall	Matthew Dille
Tyler Crace	Gabriel Paulone
Shakaria Morris	Ann Whited
Tiara Finch	Will Fetzer
Isaac Olvey	Colin Whited
Chris Jensen	Samantha Krieger
Chris Schuitema	Nuketria Hayes
Holly Sharer	Amanda Krieger
Bradley Gantt	Bethany Shelly
Micaela Paulone	Katie Lechner
TJ Neanover	

Happy New Year!

I would like to update you on what is happening with the Buddy System Project as we go into the New Year. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders have

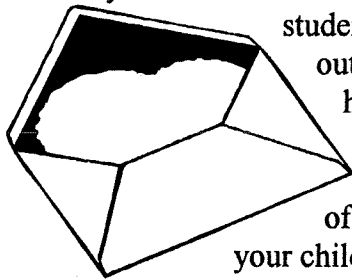


been working very hard on their projects in the computer lab. Also on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1999 representatives from the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will go to the state capitol. This event is called "Rotunda Day". The legislators meet at the State Capital building and the students will be there to "show off" their work to the legislators. Showing them how our school uses the computers is key to keeping the Buddy System Project funded.

There will be two-things happening this winter and they are that Iquest Internet Provider will be offering a low rate access to the Internet through the buddy system project. This is good for those who are buddy system project members and do not have access to the Internet. I will keep you posted on this as information comes in. Secondly, I will be giving each of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grader a username and password to have access to the "Electric Library." Students can gain information through this library when doing research. You must already have an Internet access to use this. However while they are in school they will use it here in the computer lab.

### First Grade News:

The first grade will be having the Annual Valentine's Day Post Office project. It will begin on February 1<sup>st</sup> and run through the 12<sup>th</sup> of February. Your child's teacher will decide if the



students will work on filling out cards in class or at home. If they will be worked on in class, please send in a box of valentine cards with your child. Also, we would like

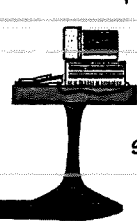
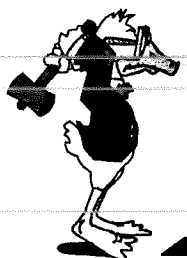
to ask that letter or legal-sized envelopes be sent in addition to the cards. They are larger and easier for the children to write on. The writing is more legible on larger envelopes and our students can read them better. Thanks for the support!

Good News! The first grade class will be sending five students to the Math Pentathlon in April. This will be the first time for ISD to send a group of students. The students have been working very hard on the five games for the tournament. We will keep you posted on their progress.

Linda Cooper and Marie Kellam-Cook

### Mrs. Wolfe's Third Grade News

These little engineers are learning all about simple machines. They can already name many types of tools that are used as levers. They will be learning about wheels & axles, inclined planes, wedges, and



pulleys. The students will be tearing apart and reassembling some simple machines.

We welcome any simple machines that the parents would like to donate. Keep in mind, you may not get them back in the same

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

### Snow! Snow! Snow!

Our first week back at school found only 1/3 of the students in our class present, 2/3 absent! But we continued class, reviewing, catching up, and learning some new tasks in math and on the computer.

This week found all students back in class. PAH! We are working our way back into the "old routine." We welcomed Jamie Kauffman, a Ball State Participant, into our class. She will join us for 8 weeks. We're making globes, and preparing to study early Explorers in Social Studies. In science, we've completed our study of invertebrates (animals without backbone), and are beginning vertebrates.

Linda Groogan

### News from Room 469

By: Sue Jones and Lou Ott

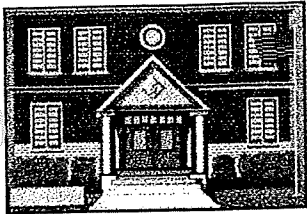
BRRRR! We have certainly had some cold weather and lots of snow recently. The first week of school after vacation we had few students here. Almost everyone was snowed in. Here at ISD we had 10 inches of snow on the ground. Every day we got a little bit more! Wow, that is winter in Indiana. The second week of school almost all students were here and we got back into our regular routine.



This week we had a holiday for Martin Luther King's birthday. We also went to the bookmobile and selected books for our book

reports. We read between 3 and 6 books, tell the story to our teachers and draw pictures to show what happened in the story. This

Thursday we went to Pizza Hut for our reward. We ate pizza and drank pop. When we finished eating, we stopped at a bakery and bought some cookies for our dessert. Yummy! All who went had a very enjoyable time.



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 11

February 5, 1999

David Geeslin



**PARENTS:** Please make sure to inform us of any changes in your child's transportation plans (for example: if a student

will be picked up after school instead of riding the bus). It is your responsibility to contact the transportation dept./bus drivers to tell them of the change as well. It is preferred that you send a note to your child's teacher informing him or her of the transportation plan. Getting this information as soon as possible will give us time to make sure all the appropriate people are aware (aides on bus duty, teachers on front lobby duty, etc.). If you have not sent a note to the teacher, please call Karin, the Elementary Dept. secretary, at 920-6260 as early as possible. Thanks!

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## DRESS CODE UPDATE:

There have been some problems in school regarding hats. The policy is that **NO HATS ARE ALLOWED IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING!** Students should not even bring hats to the school building (classrooms) from the dorms or home. The students have been informed that their hats will be taken and kept until the end of the school year if they bring them to class from now on.

Also, **NO SHORTS ARE ALLOWED EXCEPT IN THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER.** This policy is the same for residential and dorm students. Dorm students shouldn't bring shorts to wear until those months.

Finally, **NO BAGGY PANTS/ SHORTS ARE ALLOWED!** All pant waistbands should be worn above the hips at all times.

**We appreciate your cooperation in these matters.**

## CORRECTION:

The Elementary Department Annual Events Calendar (not the 12 month ISD Calendar) that was sent home in the beginning of the school year has a mistake. It **INCORRECTLY** states that **there is a HALF (1/2) DAY ON MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>** (for end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter-report cards/Parent conferences). It should be **MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>** that has the Half (1/2) day for end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, not the 4<sup>th</sup>!!!

**\*\*Note: There are half days on Feb. 12, March 5, and March 19!!!**

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**Our Kindergarten Classes will visit the Post Office.**

Dave Tester, Joan V. Bippus, Marsha Wetzel, and Chris Fetzner

The Kindergarten Classes are planning a field trip to the Post Office on Thursday, February 11. We will leave I.S.D. at 8:30 in the morning with brown bag lunches. One of our first graders, Tony Dall's father, who is working at the Post Office, will give us a tour.

Since we are having a Valentine's Day celebration here at school with our own "Post Office" system of distributing Valentine Day cards to students, this will be a timely and relevant tour.



Wish us a great time on the field trip to the Post Office. We are sure it will be a very enriching experience for all of us.

## First Grade News – Happy Valentine's Day

The first grade will be having their annual Valentine's Day Post Office. This reinforces many of the skills that are incorporated into our curriculum. They will be working on handwriting skills, addressing envelopes, money, and sorting & delivering of the mail. This activity is a very beneficial one for the students.

Please send in cards and letter-size envelopes with your child to school. This activity is for the entire Elementary Department. Thanks for your support. (If you can't send in cards, please write a note to your child's teacher, and we will provide a box of cards for the student. We have a variety for them to pick from.)

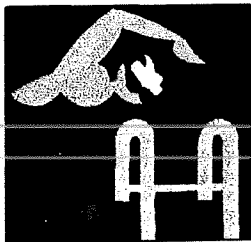
By Marie Kellam-Cook and Linda Cooper

## Becki Philhower's Class News

Have you heard about David Geeslin's challenge to the Elementary students? If they can read 4000 books by June, he will shave his head! The boys are excited about this challenge, and are enjoying reading books and writing reports, both for BOOK IT!, as well as for David's head shaving. This is a great motivator for the students and we teachers are anxiously waiting to see if the students can achieve this goal!

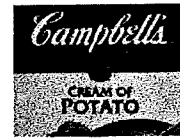
Our skating party this past Friday was a huge success! No one was injured during any of the numerous spills—superb news! Everyone enjoyed himself or herself, and the students once again have shown how much they have improved in their abilities!

Swimming class is another area where the boys have improved. Several of them are able to swim front and back well enough that they go to the deep end with Nancy Caraboa and practice! They are even jumping off the diving board! Thursdays are a favorite time for the boys in the water!



## ISD Elementary Newsletter

### CAMPBELL'S SOUP INFORMATION



Hello to all the cooks in the families! Are you still thinking of us when you use Campbell's products? We sure hope so! It's that time of the year when we begin to cut, sort and count the labels that you have sent in. I mail the labels to the company by March 1<sup>st</sup>. So PLEASE, be sure to send in any labels you have so far to me! Continue to save labels year round—they really do make a difference!

Becki Philhower

## Who's new in Gretchen Krug's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class?

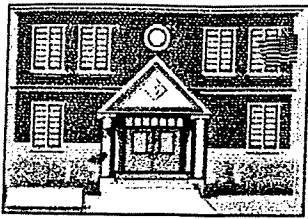
Dear Parents,

I am pleased to be here at ISD doing my first of two student teaching experiences. I will be here until March 19. I have heard much about the outstanding academics of ISD and wanted to be a part of it. I grew up with deaf grandparents who insisted that I learned to sign (to communicate with them). My dad is a pastor of a deaf church in Columbus, Ohio and my mom has been an interpreter for 22 years. Though I am hearing, I have grown up in a 'deaf world'. My grandmother was a teacher at the Florida School f/t Deaf & Blind and when she passed away in '95, I decided to follow in her footsteps and become an educator as well. This is my fifth year in College-giving me 'super-senior' status! I will graduate in May and plan to pursue teaching either here at ISD or back home at OSD (Ohio School f/t Deaf). I am looking forward to having a part in teaching your children.



Sincerely,

Jonathan Bordean



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 11 Part 2

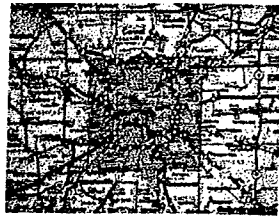
February 12, 1999

## **\*\*SPECIAL EDITION\*\***

We had so much news we couldn't fit it all in last week's newsletter, so here is Part 2 of the news!

### News from Lou and Sue

The number 3 is an often used number in literature. We have been reviewing some stories that use the number 3. Our students have compared and contrasted characters, plots, and settings. To some stories we have added an additional character and discussed how the additional character affected the plot. The students had various opinions about using an extra character.



We are making a mural of communities. First we brainstormed ideas about a community. Then we read books and examined pictures about various communities. We added more information to our thinking map. Now the students are using the map to create their mural by making pictures of things connected to the communities.

David Geeslin challenged the students in Elementary Department to read 4000 books by the end of May. Our classes have accepted the challenge. We have already read 25 books in just one week. Our goal is to see David Geeslin shave his head.

### Mrs. Laura Gaalema's Class (4<sup>th</sup> grade)

We've been experimenting with ways to measure MATTER during Science

class. We've learned to measure mass and how to find volume. Sami Krieger, Mollie Sachs, Holly Sharer, Chris Schuitema, and Nukeitra Hayes used their measuring and observing skills to find the mass of various objects using a balance. They used their observing, measuring, inferring and predicting skills to find the volume of different rocks. These skills were also used when we mixed molasses, cooking oil, and liquid floor wax to find out which liquid has the greater density. We're looking forward to exploring HEAT ENERGY next in Science class!



### Second Grade Class News

*By Suzi McGeath and Monica Burdsall*

*What's up on the first week of March? On the week of March 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, Elementary Department will be celebrating the Students' Knowledge in Science. We decided that each class would demonstrate and provide hands-on activities in Science. We will be celebrating all students' achievements instead of having competitions. More*

information will be posted in the next newsletter.

*We are proud to welcome our new student, A.J. Hommel. A.J. is in Mrs. Suzi McGeath's class. A.J. is having fun meeting new friends and learning new things.*

*In our science class, our students have been learning about Matter. We have done some experiments and research with Matter. The students are learning the States of Matter - solid, liquid, and gas. They have been using observing, measuring, and inferring skills during experiments.*

### **Third Grade News**

Jan Myers Class

This past month our class has had a great time learning about animals and their adaptations to the areas in which they live. We have learned about the eagle's talons, the bat's sensitive hearing, gardens of eels, and the arctic fox's winter changes. We have also learned about why animals look and act the way they do. Our favorite is the "big nosed monkey". His nose is big and his arms are long. He looks really funny but there is a reason for that and we've learned that reason. It's been a fun month.

### **GREETINGS FROM THE COMMUNICATION CENTER**

Hello Parents!

"Communication" was

thriving at the USA Roller Skating Rink! The children successfully gave the worker their shoe size and received skates. Many thanks for sending in the money for this event. We are grateful for the partnership we have with you in your child's education.

We are now discussing "fires". I need your help. They need to have an "exit plan" that they

## **ISD Elementary Newsletter**

practice during the year, with their family members. We will discuss how to communicate with a number of people, if they are ever involved in – or see a fire.

You are invited to join in with your child's class – any time!

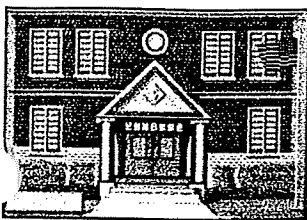
**By Sandy Hakes**

Communication Center

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### **APOLOGIES! APOLOGIES!**

Sorry for any confusions or misunderstandings about the dress code announcement in last week's newsletter. A clarification about clothing issues is in order (see the student handbook Dress Code section on hats and appropriate school clothing). Would you please share this rule with your son or daughter. Though hats aren't allowed at school, the students are welcome and encouraged to bring and wear winter caps or for recess.



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 10

March 5, 1999

David Geeslin



Parents, we have great news! We are now offering American Sign Language classes and Family Discussion Groups for parents. The ASL class is offered on Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m. and the Family Discussion Group is offered right after ASL class for an hour (2 – 3 p.m). This is a great opportunity for you - an opportunity to communicate with your Deaf/hard of hearing child(ren) so you can pass on your family values through communication. The Family Discussion Groups will cover various topics that you may be facing at home. Again, another great opportunity to get lots of support for your family. For more information, please contact me at (317) 920-6260.

## Buddy System Project

Mike Jackson

Summer is approaching fast upon us and I'd like to share a few things with you about the Buddy System Project. As you know, summer is approaching fast and we would like to



prepare those of you who have computers in your home. Those computers will need to be returned to the elementary computer lab by Friday, May 21, 1999. Please contact me to make arrangements. Reason for the return is to upgrade those computers for the 1999-2000 academic school year.

We will have a Buddy Summer Camp from June 28 to July 2. This camp will involve two area of study using technology at Butler University. They are Science and Technology and Art and Technology. We are only allowed

to have 4 students and one teacher as a team. I would like to have our buddy students involved. I have applications and if any of you parents want your child involved, please let me know. The deadline for submitting applications is April 16, 1999 or you can visit the website, which is <http://www.buddynet.net>.

## Kindergarten Class News

Kara Knebel

Hello! J.V. Bippus had a baby girl born on February 26, 1999. They are both doing fine. I am currently the long-term substitute teacher for J.V. Bippus's class until she returns in the middle of May. Jason Wilson is our new addition. He is our teacher's aide.

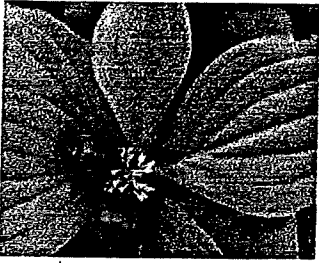
The first week of March has been a busy one. We had a Science Fair. Each class was to have a hands-on project. My class focused on what materials stick to a magnet. The students help put different kinds of materials in individual baggies. Then they placed all the baggies on the bulletin board. Then the students tested the material to see if they would stick to a small size magnet. The students were quite fascinated by this activity. We even had more fun when each student used a magnet and was to pick up as many paper clips as possible. Then they counted how many paper clips they were able to pick up. There was a three-way tie of 33 and the highest was 56.



Since we are going to the Shrine Circus this Thursday, we focused on the theme "The Circus". First, we discussed what we would do at the circus. Then we read a story about the circus. Afterwards, all the boys had their faces painted as unique clown. They enjoyed showing other students their clown faces.

The next two weeks, our class will learn about the holiday, St. Patrick's Day. We will have lots of fun filled activities.

## Becki Philhower's Class News



The boys have been busy these past few weeks learning what a plant needs to grow, and learning about the parts of a plant. This week's science fair project is

based on the parts of a plant that we eat everyday! We all worked hard on the displays so that our friends and families could come in and see what we have learned. We had real foods to show everyone when they came into the room. We learned that plants are very important to us!

We have been excited to count our Pennies for Leukemia money every week. Right now, we are very close to winning the classroom pizza! We have practiced our counting skills by ones, tens and hundreds! A great big **Thanks** to our parents for letting us bring in all those pennies and other coins too!

### Third Grade News

Mrs. Wolfe's Class

Japan, Australia, Mexico, India, Jamaica, and China are some of the countries that the students are learning about. They are comparing communities, holidays, foods, clothing, resources, and customs of various places and people. Each



student is making a scrapbook of one country. The students are excited to complete their scrapbooks and share them with their peers and families.

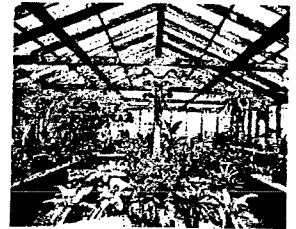
Our Ball State student, Lisa, taught the students about Mexico. Isaiah's mother shared her personal experience of her recent visit to Japan. Both presentations were wonderful. **Thanks ladies!**

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

### THIRD GRADE NEWS

Jan Myers's Class

Jan Myers's third grade class has been busy getting ready for the Science Fair Celebration. All of the other third, fourth, and fifth graders have been busy too. Our class has done a project on plants, how they grow, and what they need. We used red dye to show how water moves up into a piece of celery. We also watched a carrot with no water shrivel up and die. We've started a hydroponics garden which will hopefully produce some nice green beans, peas, and mint. I



videotaped each student doing his or her part in our little program. Please let me know if you would like to borrow it. Happy S. Patrick's Day, a little early, from our class.

### News from Applied Curriculum

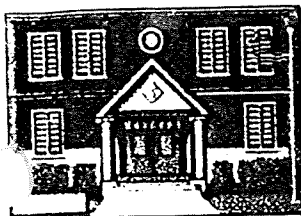
By Sue Jones and Lou Ott

We have been studying famous Black Americans. We talked about Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King. Harriet Tubman helped slaves escape to freedom. Martin Luther King's dream helps Black people today find freedom.

For Science Fair we explored how rainbows happen. We learned that sunlight passing through raindrop bends. When the light bends, we see a rainbow. We will make color charts and color wheels this week. Science is fun!

In math we are working on place value, addition and subtraction. We also are continuing to count money and plan what we will buy when we go shopping next Friday, March 12.





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 13

March 19, 1999

David Geeslin



Parents, I have enclosed the report of Barb Gantt which she proposed to PTCO. Barb Gantt, a PTCO Board member and a parent of Elementary student, met with David Geeslin, Elementary Dept. Supervisor, to discuss the status of 1998-1999 Elementary Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). As per request of the PTCO Board, I was assigned to follow up with questions of attendance of parents, timing of the PAC meetings and issues of the PAC. David commented on the average of 2 parents attending the monthly meetings since the school year started. As best as David could fit the PAC schedule, he was also attending evening college classes resulting in his decision to meet at 4:00 p.m. He acknowledged that the timing of 4:00 p.m. may not be suitable for most parents, he agreed to add one more time slot at 7:00 p.m. on 3rd Thursdays beginning April 15th as well as keeping the original 4:00 p.m. that were also on ISD master calendar, therefore, giving parents' option of attending 4:00 and/or 7:00 p.m. time slots.

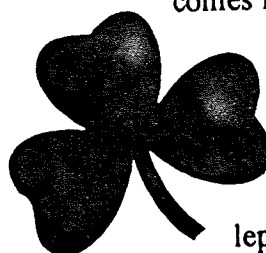
As far as concerning issues of the PAC which were few and far in between, David managed to work on an individual case by case between parents, teachers and the dorm staff. David wants to include discussion of the Elementary Dept. curriculum for 1999-2000 school year on Thursday, May 13th at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. and it will be the last '98-'99 PAC meeting.

Diane Hazel-Jones teaming with Barb Gantt also have an active Elementary Family Discussion Group on Fridays from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. followed by ASL classes instructed by Beatrice Pfaff.

## Kindergarten News

By Kara Knebel

In Celebration of St. Patrick's Day, my class has learned about green shamrocks/clovers and leprechauns. They learned that shamrocks/clovers comes in 3 or 4 leaves. They also



discovered through making shamrocks with green construction paper, that their leaves are shaped like hearts. We learned about

leprechauns by reading a story

called "Clever Tom and the Leprechaun". The students found out that the leprechaun was the clever and tricky one, not Tom.

Finally, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, Dave Tester's class joined my class to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We had played two games related to the holiday. One game similar to duck, duck, goose, where this game was changed to "leprechaun, leprechaun, gold". One person was the leprechaun another was to try to catch him. If the leprechaun was caught, then he was to sit in the middle to protect a pot of gold. Everyone had a chance to be the leprechaun. Another game was even more fun because each student was to find chocolate covered coins in a bucket of "green" rice. Followed by the game, we had green shaped shamrock cookies and sprite drink.

Chris Fetzer's class joined my class are already aching for the new season, "Spring". We started off talking about what kinds of things you see when Spring weather comes about. Then we chose a book, related to the beginning of spring, to share with the students, called "The Happy Day" written by Ruth Krauss. The students were really enthused with the ending of the story. Each

student then had the opportunity to tell the story himself or herself. Based on this story, we prepared, practiced and presented a play based on this story to the other kindergarten students and staff. If you wish to see the play, you can either stop by or borrow the videotape presenting the play. The students had a ball with this story.

### **First Grade News** **Mario Kellam-Cook** **U. Sung Chung**

**We would like to welcome U. Sung Chung to the Elementary Department. USC is our student teacher until May 7. USC is attending Western Maryland College. He is doing a wonderful job. I feel like we are co-teaching rather than being his mentor.**

**We have been studying about different states. The students chose one state to study. They did research on the internet and made a model of their state. They included characteristics about their states in the models. They did an outstanding job.**

**The next few weeks we will be discussing the weather, time, the beaches and recycling. They will be so busy doing their projects and having a great time learning.**

**Have a great spring!!!**

### **CAMPBELL'S SOUP INFORMATION**

Congratulations and thanks to all of the cooks in the family who have sent us their soup labels and UPC codes! We have counted and tied up 10, 500 labels! The order will be packaged and shipped to Campbell's by this Friday. Please continue to save labels year round—they really do make a difference! You can send them into me year round also. We will store them here in my room until time to ship them off next year! Thanks again!

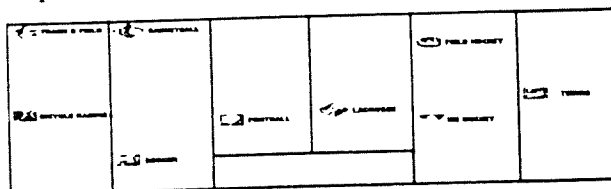
## **ISD Elementary Newsletter**

Becki Philhower

Third Grade News

Jan Myers

Jan Myers' class is beginning a unit on timelines. We started our unit by discussing explorers from way back in Columbus's time. We made a ship with sails just like Columbus's ship had.



The ship showed all of the different compartments of the ship and how it was put together.

We will be making a bulletin board of a time line with pictures and 3-D displays. Come by and see us sometime. We would be happy to show off our hard work.

By the way, swimming is over for this year. We had a great time. Have a wonderful Spring Break.

On Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students went to the Children's Museum to see the ROBOT ZOO. The exhibit had robot animals, which gave us an inside look at how real animals function. The robots had steel skeletons, with pistons for muscles and hinges for joints. We learned what muscles flies use to flap their wings, where the blood goes to the wings, and where the flies suck in food! We also saw a robot chameleon which had computer-linked video screens which allowed the robot chameleon to blend its color with its background. In the wild, such camouflage ability makes it hard for prey to see a chameleon until....zap!...too late. The tongue gun display let us zap insect targets with a rod powered by compressed air. This showed how a chameleon uses its long, sticky tongue to catch food. The exhibit also had computer-designed activities which included computer-animated 3-D animals. We all had a blast learning about machines, robots, computers, and animals!



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 14

April 16, 1999

David Geeslin



Good News! Our department is offering ISTEP summer school from July 12 through 23, Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 3:00. This offer is for any student who took the SAT-HI test this year and is available for those students who are (1998-1999). Please contact me if you need more information. Thanks.

## PTCO DAY MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>!!!

To all of you - ISD students, staff, families, alumni, friends and interested participants - the PTCO Day committee sponsored by the PTCO Organization will make your day on Sunday, May 2, 1999 an event to remember! Many exciting activities await you - children's games, a noonwalk, ISD and community booths, food sales, assorted prizes, raffles and swimming (2:30 to 4:30 p.m.), clowns, appearance by the McGruff Dog from the Indianapolis Police Academy and be prepared to end your fun-filled day with a dip in the dunk tank! The swimming pool hours are divided into two time slots: 2:30 to 3:30 for Preschoolers through 6<sup>th</sup> graders accompanied by a parent; 3:30 to 4:30 for 7<sup>th</sup> graders through adults.

We are in **great** need of parent volunteers to help with students' games and supervision of swimming pool activities - please contact Wendy Brimmer at 546-7792 (TTY)

[Wbrim75907@aol.com](mailto:Wbrim75907@aol.com) or Tami Hossler at 823-5191 (V/TTY) On the [go321@aol.com](mailto:go321@aol.com).

For further questions, Barb Gantt, PTCO Day chairperson, can be reached at 576-9849 (TTY) [[PTCODay@aol.com](mailto:PTCODay@aol.com)].

## First Grade

USC and Marie Kellam-Cook

We would like to congratulate Tyler Crace, Tony Dall, Keith Jones and Andy Kremer on an excellent job during the 1999 Math Pentathlon. The four boys participated with 500 students from various local schools. They showed their wonderful sportsmanship skills and had a great time. Everyone won at least one game. CONGRATULATIONS!

We have a very busy schedule ahead of us. On April 21, we will go to an airport and watch a demonstration with a jet. Then on April 22, we will be going to Dayton, Ohio to visit the Wright Patterson Air Force Base. This Base is a museum for the history of aviation. We have been studying aviation in our class. The class is thrilled to have these experiences.

Our last adventure will take place on April 29. After studying bicycle safety, we will be applying the concepts on a bike trip. We will ride our bikes on the Monon Trail to Broad Ripple. They will be required to follow safety rules and demonstrate their knowledge.

We are having a great spring with our adventures.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class News

By Suzi McGeath and Monica Burdsall

We can hardly believe Spring is here! Our classes have been busy with so many things. The day before Spring Break, we went to the Children's Museum Robot Zoo. The Robot Zoo had different animal exhibits. It was really neat!

Our classes will participate in the Math Fair on Friday, April 23, 1999. We will have hands-on demonstrations showing our mathematics power. Be sure to come over and visit us.

In the next few weeks, we will be studying about the Weather in our science classes. We will work together on some hands-on weather activities.

Have a great weekend!

# **INDY 500 MINI-MARATHON**

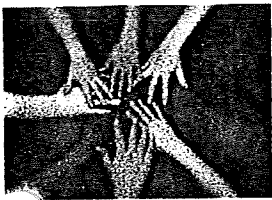
## **ISD TEAM'S FUNDRAISER**

There will be about 35 participants from ISD in the Indy 500 Mini-Marathon on Saturday, May 1, 1999. Mike Jackson, Jeanne M. Peters, Ted Myhre, Guy Vollmar and Marsha Wetzel will be the participants from the Elementary Department. The ISD Team is looking for donations that will go to the new rope courses on ISD campus. The rope courses will help the entire campus in the areas of team building and personal/professional growth. Your donations will be greatly appreciated. Please fill out the below commitment of your donation and return it to Marsha Wetzel. The deadline for donation is Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am interested in making a donation at the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**THANK YOU** for your support of the ISD Team.



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 15

April 30, 1999

David Geeslin

The tragedy in Colorado has brought us new perspective as to how we can make our school a safe learning environment. When I was studying how to best educate our students, I learned that a safe and secure environment is the number one key for our students to thrive. Therefore, maintaining our learning environment in a safe and secure manner has been a priority for us. I have encouraged our teachers to talk with students about what steps are necessary to maintain a safe environment and to share their experience of dealing with the tragedy in Colorado. I have zero tolerance for any student's violent behavior and will take immediate action to secure and protect our students. This is a good opportunity for you to turn this experience into a positive one by sharing your family values and views on violence with your child(ren).



## Open letter from Mr. Kovatch, Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The staff and students at ISD were greatly touched by the events at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado on April 20. We were involved in many discussions in the classrooms, hallways, and cafeteria after witnessing the horrific events.

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 21 and 22, supervising teachers in the Elementary, Middle School, and High School departments (Mr. David Geeslin, Mr. Jerry Thixton, Ms. Linda Lloyd) and I addressed the students. In several age-appropriate explanations we explained the facts of the incident, re-explained our expectations for student behavior and consequences at ISD (out of school suspension for any sign or remark of a

threatening nature), and observed a moment of silence.

School safety is an extremely high priority at ISD and we will do everything we can to safeguard your sons and daughters while they are in our supervision.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert Kovatch, Principal

## Here – or to go?

K-5<sup>th</sup> grades have been studying about communicating independently at restaurants. They learn to predict what will be said by the workers, options/strategies to use in order to make sure they are understood, how to spell and abbreviate English words, and how to solve problems that could occur. I will send home a “Partnership Package” in June. It will provide you with resources and suggestions that will hopefully help and encourage your child to communicate on a daily basis – wherever he/she goes!

Communication Center,

Sandy Hakes

## Becki Philhower's Class News

We have been learning about the First Americans—the Indians. The boys have enjoyed comparing things that the first Americans and first settlers did to capture food, make clothing and build homes to our way of life now. We recently finished our project--sewing Indian leather

moccasins. Each of the boys is very excited to be able to take them home and wear them!

In Language Arts, we read stories about fishing. Our favorite one so far is the "Fish That Goes Fishing". This fish lives far below the surface of the ocean, where it is very dark. It has a "pole" that sticks out from its head. The end of it glows in the dark. Other curious fish come close to see the glow and—SNAP!—the fish eats them! We wish we could see that fish for real!!

### THIRD GRADE NEWS

Jan Myers

Spring has sprung here at ISD and all of us have a little bit of spring fever. But we have other things to be excited about. Tuesday the third graders all got new desks. We've gotten them all adjusted and feel like kings in the new desks.

We also have a new addition to our classroom. After weeks of waiting our ants had arrived and been deposited into the ant farm. We have been fascinated to watch how the ants work together with a common goal. Every ant seems to have a job and if it is not sleeping it is working. Our sweet potatoes are growing very well and even though they look a little strange we've had fun watching them.

Have a great May.

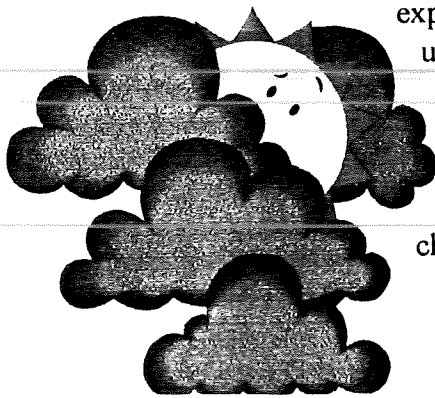
### Learning About the Weather

Monica Burdsall & Suzi McGeath

Our second graders are learning about various types of weather. We conducted two experiments on how the clouds appeared and air expand when rises up in the sky.

We created different types of clouds.

Everyday we checked the



## ISD Elementary Newsletter

temperature and weather reports. We watched the video on weather symbols such as sunny, cloudy, and raining. Next week, we will study various kinds of storms such as tornadoes, hurricanes and blizzards. Studying weather is really fun!!

**September 14: All fourth and fifth grade students will be attending the Ruth Lilly Health Education Center as part of their science unit. The program is titled "Fantastic Journey" and informs about cells, tissues, organs, and body systems with special emphasis on the circulatory system. Graphics, models, and a pulse meter activity help students learn about the effects of stress, smoking, diet and exercise on the body.**

### Linda Groogan

A Friendly Reminder: Please bring the ISTEP summer school application form. It's due on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Please attend PAC- May 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. or at 7 p.m. It will be the most important meeting because the new programs for all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders this coming fall will be discussed. There will be several teachers available for questions at the meeting including teachers of science, social studies, mathematics and language arts. More details will be announced.



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 15

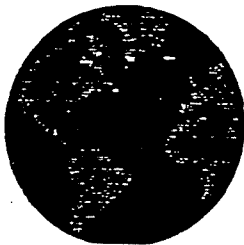
April 30, 1999

David Geeslin



School is almost wrapped up. Probably some of you parents of students currently in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> are wondering who their teacher will be next year. If you want to know who the teacher will be, it will be teacher(s) because we will be offering a new change for this coming Fall. In 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades, there will be two Science teachers and two Social Studies teachers who will also be teaching Mathematics. And there will be two or three Language Arts teachers. I will not be able to name specific teachers for the students because of this. Our new program will be explained to parents at the next PAC meeting and you can ask questions there at that time. I will not give names of specific teachers at the meeting.

I would strongly encourage you to come to our PAC meeting next week on Thursday, May 20, 1999 at 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. Interpreters will be provided.

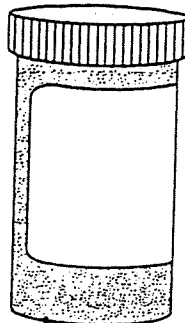


Please remember to send the application form for your child to attend ISTEP summer school this coming summer. The *deadline is this coming Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>*. I strongly encourage you to send your child(ren) to this program. Your child(ren) will be working on Mathematics and Language Arts all day and the theme this summer is "It's a Big World". We will be studying multicultural issues with a focus on skills that are being tested on the ISTEP.

## Medications and the law!

Deb Robarge RN, Health Center Director

Indiana state law forbids students in our schools to have medications, both prescription and over-the-counter ~~in~~ their possession while at school. This includes in their pockets, backpacks, lockers, dorm rooms etc. The only exceptions would be medications that have a specific Dr.'s order permitting the students to carry and self-medicate themselves with specific medications (i.e.



inhalers., etc.). This order must be submitted to the Health Center and school and dorm will be notified of the order. Any product not specifically for cosmetic use is included as an over-the-counter medication. Examples include, cough and cold products, pain relievers, antacids, vitamins, health supplements, etc. If you have questions about specific items please call the Health Center to check. Consequences of violating this rule, as stated in student code of conduct for 1<sup>st</sup> offense-3 day suspension, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense-5 day suspension. As always, feel free to contact the Health Center with any questions you may have regarding this policy. Our toll-free number is 1-800-715-5602.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class News

by Suzi McGeath and Monica Burdsall

Our classes are looking forward to going two field trips next week! On Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am - 11:45 am, we are going to Nora's Post Office. We are going to learn more about how the Post

Office's system works. The field trip is part of our Social Studies unit. Our unit focuses on "How We all Work Together".

On Friday, May 21 from 12:30 pm -

2:45 pm, we are joining with the 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes and Ms. Becki Philpott's second grade class to visit the Ruth Lilly Health Center. We are going to learn more about our bodies and its functions. Bodies and Good Health is our Science topic for the next two weeks.

## Spring Renewal

By Lou Ott's and Sue Jones' Classes

It was a cloudy day as the Applied Curriculum classes traveled to Lafayette to assist Carol Burklow's Public School class in cleaning up our shared garden at Lilly Park. At first we pulled all weeds. We turned over the soil and planted some annual flowers. Finally,



we help at

keep future weeds from growing. We later dined at the school on Papa John's delicious cheese and pepperoni pizzas. Ice cold soda pop was our choice of beverage. Our social time was spent playing tag and with a Frisbee. We returned to I.S.D. tired, but very happy.

## News from Mrs. Wolfe's

### Third Grade Class



The students appreciate all of your patronage on the recent sale of **Silly Hats**. The students sold a total of 68 hats in five days. They collected a total of \$17.00. Each child earned an hourly wage. Their hat-making company profited \$2.32 after their wages and materials were paid in full. The students learned that teamwork is challenging

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

and fun. They also learned that 25 cents per hat did not earn them enough profit! We want to thank each student, parent, and staff who contributed to our quest for learning about making, advertising, and selling a product. We're glad that we could put a **silly hat** on your head and a **silly grin** on your face.

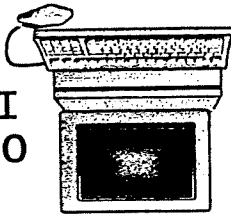


FOURTH GRADE NEWS  
- LAURA GAALEMA'S CLASS

We're continuing to develop our Science process skills as we explore

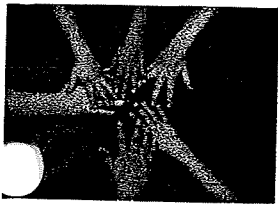
MACHINES, ELECTRICITY, AND OUR BODIES.

We dissected raw chicken legs to find muscles, tendons, joints, ligaments, and cartilage that are similar to our own. Of course, we took the proper safety precautions and wore rubber gloves and shirts as we explored our chicken legs! During our exploration of our chicken legs, we also found marrow inside the bones, and noted that the chicken's leg joint was a type of joint called a **HINGE JOINT**. We also have a seven-foot robot with which we compared 'body parts', and which has electric parts similar to the circuits we've been exploring in our study of electricity. The robot also has machine and lever parts. We've talked about radar, and how the robot's radar parts are similar to those of a bat. We always seem to learn a lot more when our hands are busily involved!!



ONCE AGAIN THIS IS TO REMIND YOU BUDDY PARENTS ARE TO BE RETURNED NEXT WEEK FRIDAY, MAY 21, HAVE A GREAT SUMMER 1999.





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 15

April 30, 1999

David Geeslin



We in Elementary wish you a safe, healthy, restful summer. Much has been accomplished this year. Enjoy the long Memorial Day weekend (NO SCHOOL THIS MONDAY, MAY 31<sup>st</sup>).

Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>,  
Elementary Award Ceremony in  
Elementary Gym at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, June 4, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Graduation in Elementary Gym  
at 9:00 a.m.

*\*Interpreters will be  
available at both ceremonies.*

Reminder: Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> is  
the last day of school and is  
a half day (12:30 dismissal)!

May 4, 1999 the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes went to Conner Prairie. There they participated in the "Just Folks" program. They learned to make cornbread like the early settlers of Indiana. They also got a chance to churn butter and dip candles. This all happened in or near an authentic cabin of an early settler. We also met or saw again an old friend, Elizabeth Foster. Miss Foster is now learning new things also. She has learned to spin and dye wool and weave it into cloth.

Attending the Buddy Science and Technology camp this summer will be Bradley Gantt, Catherine Hughes, David Magnabosco and Chris Schuitema. They will be collecting data concerning the

environment around Indianapolis, and formulating it into a presentation, using technology. This will happen the week of June 28-July 2, at Butler University.

Linda Grbogan  
Mike Jackson

## We Love Computers

By Lou and Sue

Our students have enjoyed having computers in our classrooms. They are able to practice the skills that they have learned in Lab. Many of the students keyboard skills have great increased.

They also have had the opportunity to use the computers for their schoolwork. They typed their vocabulary words weekly. They created pictures and wrote words to describe the pictures. They typed personal information on the computers. Of course they have learned many new games. The students loved the water arcade games.

The students were a part of the Buddy System. They took pictures and sent them to parents. They made cards to send to friends. Of course the greatest thrill was getting E-mail.

Having computers in the classroom was a wonderful experience and we all hope to continue with computers next year.

## THIRD GRADE NEWS

Jan Myers

I guess by now we all realize that the school year is almost over. It is hard to believe that nine months have passed and it is very nearly June. Our class has been learning some basics about American history. We studied the Liberty Bell and were fascinated to learn about the crack and

why the bell does not ring any more. We saw pictures taken on the teacher's vacation. We have also discussed the road west. We had a wagon outlined on the floor and we tried to see what we could get into it not much!

In science we've studied simple machines and how they help us to do work. We made paper robots for fun. The teacher will be sending work home for the summer so watch for the summer packet. Hope you have a wonderful and safe summer.

## Becki Philhower's Class News

On Friday, May 21, 1999, the first and second graders took a field trip together to the Ruth Lilly Health Education Center. We participated in a program called My Healthy Body. We all reviewed parts of the body, the five senses, and healthy food choices (good nutrition). All of the students had the opportunity to

Be up front with the presenter and share information that they knew. Our interpreters George Perry and Jeanne Clark did a super job in helping interpret the information!

***On Tuesday, June 1, 1999, my class will be traveling again with Sue Jones and Lou Ott to Hommel Park in Plainfield for our annual end of the year picnic. We will be using their nature trail, their fitness trail, their equipment and their cook out grills to prepare our lunch. We are all looking forward to a fun, relaxing day outside in the warm sunshine!***

## CAMPBELL'S SOUP INFORMATION

Hello to all of you soup lovers! Just a gentle reminder to all of you to save labels and UPCs for us through the summer months. If you are unsure of the brand, check the manufacturer's name and address on each item. I hope to be able to attach

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

the visual list again for you to post in your cabinets and pantries with this newsletter. Just save the labels and UPCs in an envelope and send back to school with my name on the envelope. Ask friends, relatives and neighbors for help too! Without your support, we can not succeed! Thanks again!

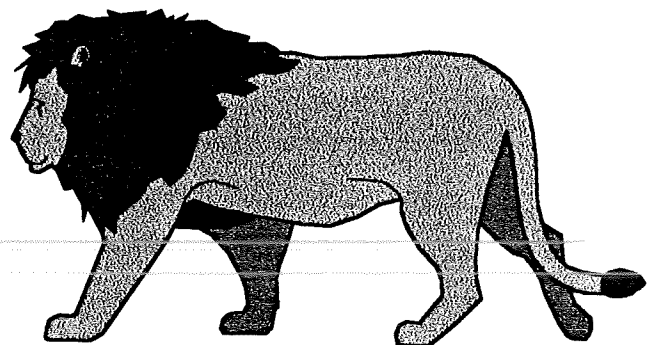
Becki Philhower

## Kindergarten News

By Dave Tester

Last Monday, the Kindergarten classes went to the Zoo. It was a little bit chilly, but we had fun. We saw sharks, seals, otters, and polar bears. We particularly enjoyed how the polar bears showed off and swam up to the glass. We saw desert animals like lions, zebras, antelope, elephants, and kangaroos. And, we were thrilled by the dolphin show. Boy are they talented. We enjoyed a brown bag lunch on the zoo grounds too.

This has been a fun, learning-packed year for us all. We wish all of the Kindergartners good luck next year.





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 1

September 10, 1999

David Geeslin



Welcome back from a long productive summer vacation! I bet many of you have learned so many new things during summer vacation, especially those students who participated in our ISTEP summer school from July 10 through 23<sup>rd</sup>. They told me how they loved to learn about different countries and their unique cultures. Their response moved us so much that we dedicated the 1999-2000 school year to celebrating our diversity and our membership in the global community.

The first meeting of the ISD School Board will be Wednesday, September 15, 1999 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Alumni Hall Auditorium. The meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend.

Please feel free to share this information with others.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ELEMENTARY DRESS CODE REMINDER:

The policy is that NO HATS ARE ALLOWED IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING! In cold weather, we certainly encourage stocking cap type hats to keep students warm outside, but baseball-type hats are not allowed at any time. Students should not even bring this types of hat to the school (classrooms) from the dorms or home. The students have been informed that their baseball hats will be taken and kept until the end of the school year if they bring them to class.

NO "SAGGING" PANTS/SHORTS ARE ALLOWED! All pant waistbands should be worn above the hips at all times.

Also, NO SHORTS ARE ALLOWED EXCEPT IN THE MONTHS OF AUGUST & SEPTEMBER and MAY & JUNE. This policy is the same for residential and dorm students. Dorm students shouldn't bring shorts to wear except in those months.

We appreciate your cooperation in these matters.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Red Dragonflys Attend Buddy Project Camp for Science & Mathematics

Four elementary students became the Red Dragonfly team at this year's Buddy Science Camp. The students were Bradley Gantt, Catherine Hughes, David Magnabosco and Chris Schuitema. Along with their teachers, Linda Groogan and Mike Jackson, they studied water

## **Marie Kellam-Cook**

### **First Grade**

We jumped right in to learning this year. We have discussed the ocean and did a lot of activities related to the ocean. We have now moved on to the jungle. It's a JUNGLE in our classroom. We explored how colors were made by mixing two colors to create a new one.

We would like to welcome a new student to ISD. His name is Nicky Curtis.  
WELCOME TO ISD. He has fit right into our classroom.

The first grade will have the opportunity to go swimming on Friday mornings. This group really enjoys the water. It will be a great opportunity.

Welcome back to a wonderful school year.

## **ISTEP COMING UP!**

Parents of 3rd graders,

We will be starting the ISTEP exams for the 3rd graders on September 15th till October first. They will be taking different tests daily at 8 in the morning till 9:30 a.m. Your teacher sent a copy of "A Parent and Student Guide" booklet to help you and your child prepare for this test. We strongly encourage you to read this and prepare your child for this.

We would really appreciate if you could have your child eat good meals, get to bed regularly, and give them extra attention. Those will help your child to do their best as possible.

Thanks,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grader Teachers  
Jeanne M. Peters, Toni Wolfe, and Laura Gaalema

## **Becki Philhower's Class News**

Welcome back to a new school year! I am pleased to announce the members of my class this year! They are Andre Craig, Garrett Crohn, Joshua Glossenger, James Keeling, Michael Meyers, and Erica Taylor. As last

## **ISD Elementary Newsletter**

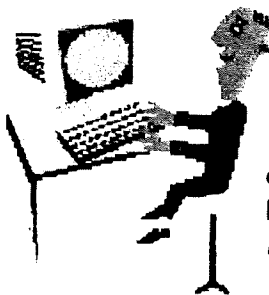
year, we are working on Sensory Integration, as well as the first grade curriculum. We do many hands-on activities, as well as moving around a lot! Come by and see us sometime!

## **CAMPBELL'S SOUP INFORMATION**

Hello to all of you soup lovers! Just a gentle reminder to all of you to save labels and UPCs for us all through the year. If you are unsure of the brand, check the manufacturer's name and address on each item. We save everything that is made by Campbell's! Attached is the visual list for you to post in your cabinets and pantries with this newsletter. Just save the labels and UPCs in an envelope and send back to school with my name on the envelope. Ask friends, relatives and neighbors for help too! If you'd like an extra list for them, send a note to your child's teacher and I will be happy to send you another one! Without your support, we can not succeed! Thanks again!

Becki Philhower

## **New Newsletter Editors**



Thanks to our new editors of this newsletter for this school year of 1999-2000! They are Sami Krieger and Nukeitra Hayes in Jeanne Meyerhoff-Peters' Language Arts class.

## **Comments from the editors**

Sami: Hil I had fun working on our first edition of 1999- 2000!

Nukeitra: I had fun too!



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3

October 8, 1999

## BECKI PHILHOWER'S CLASS NEWS

WELCOME TO OCTOBER AND TO THE BEAUTIFUL FALL WEATHER! MY CLASS HAS BEEN BUSY THIS QUARTER, STUDYING ANIMALS AND PLANTS IN THEIR HABITATS. WE HAVE MADE LARGE DISPLAYS OF THE OCEAN AND THE RAIN FOREST/JUNGLE. IF YOU HAVE TIME, STOP BY AND SEE THEM! WE WILL BE DISCUSSING THE CHANGES IN OUR PLANTS DURING THE FALL SEASON.

WE WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSING HOW ANIMALS MOVE, EAT, AND THEIR BODY COVERINGS. WE ARE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FIELD TRIP TO STONEY CREEK FARM ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> OF OCTOBER. PARENTS—PLEASE BE SURE THAT I HAVE YOUR SIGNED PERMISSION SLIPS AND \$3.00!

## Suzanne Bono/Linda Cooper's Second Grade Class News

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Suzanne Bono and I am a graduate student in both elementary education and Deaf education at Western Maryland College (WMC) in Westminster, Maryland. I have been here since September 13 and will continue here for ten weeks. Currently, I am a full time student teacher in Linda Cooper's second grade class for four weeks. I am looking forward to it because fun is teaching ☺

At first I had observed and participated when Linda taught the second grade students about Dinosaurs in the first and second weeks. They had great hands-on activities when stenciling their T-shirts of diverse dinosaurs, measuring different dinosaurs' with masking tape on the pavement outside, and other activities.

On the other hand, I am writing is to share with you what I have taught the second graders about Endangered and Extinct Species in the third week. During that week, they have learned about, discussed, identified and comprehended the basic needs of animals, various endangered and extinct species in the world, why and how they became endangered, and what can be done to save them from becoming extinct. This helps them to better understand how and why these are important issues. They are enthusiastic learning daily, especially using hands-on activities, such as making paper masks, scavenges hunts, and endangered animal vocabulary using basic signing vocabulary cards, and other activities. In addition, they will make the Endangered Habitats Park this week. It would be nice if you could stop by and visit and take a look at their adventure projects in the hallway next week. They are very proud of their work and your visit will increase their self-esteem.

In addition, we will go to Indianapolis Zoo next week on Wednesday, October 13. They are really looking forward to it because they love endangered animals. I also feel they deserve it when learning and being so hard working. Surely, they would love to share with you what they have learned and seen. Come on and visit us. ☺

## Linda Groogan and Gretchen Krug

The fifth grade Science classes have started working with bones.... Backbones that is! It really fits with this time of year! We will be studying different vertebrates.

In third grade math classes we have started working on patterns. We have done graph patterns, people patterns, movement patterns. We created patterns to make dances! We really enjoyed !

In third grade Science class we have just finished rain forest habitat. Next we will be working on Grasslands and Polar Regions we will be classifying animals by habitats.

L. Canty 4.6.

In fourth grade, science class animal adaptations. We are now involved in animal Olympics and the learning about different animal adaptations through different activities such as long jump, 100 yard dash, etc.

### **Note from Health center**

*Health Center*

**(317) 924-8409**

*TTY/Voice*

**(317) 920-6272**

*Fax*

**(800) 743-3333**

*Relay Indiana*

The Coming of Age organization will provide 1999 flu vaccinations for interested students and staff on Tuesday, October 26 from 2 to 4 PM. The flu shot will **not be given** if you are acutely ill or have an allergy to **egg or egg products** (especially history of anaphylaxis) or to children less than 3 years old.

If you would like to receive the vaccine, fill out the authorization form, enclose the \$10 and send it to the Health Center by Monday, October 26. Staff may come to the Health Center during the clinic times (between 2 - 4 pm) and fill out an authorization form at that time. The charge for the flu vaccination is \$10 and you can pay with cash or check, made payable to "Coming of Age". The pneumonia vaccine will also be available for a charge of \$20.

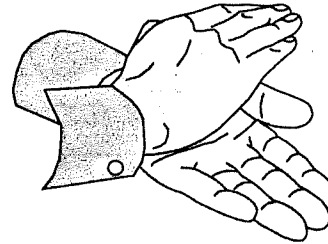
Influenza is a viral illness of the respiratory tract, which usually produces fever, chills, cough and muscle soreness. Unlike other common respiratory illnesses,

## **ISD Elementary Newsletter**

influenza can cause extreme illness lasting several days. Although influenza is most serious when it affects the elderly and chronically ill, it is also of major importance when it affects those who supply vital public needs leading to a significant number of lost work days.

If you have any questions about influenza or the vaccination, please contact the Health center staff at 924-8409 or 1-800-715-5602.

### **Note from our editors**

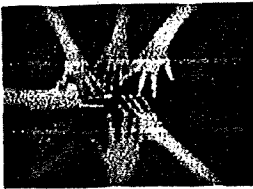


**Hurrah for our new editor,**

**Leah Grandt**

**Editors:**

Leah Grandt, Nukeitra Hayes, and  
Samantha Krieger



# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 4

October 22, 1999

David Geeslin

This calls for a celebration of many successes that have occurred in our department.



Ms. Jeanne Meyerhoff-Peters gave a great presentation to grandparents and schoolwide about her Lilly sponsored Europe trip, studying Deaf History. She also shared her experience with her Language Arts classes.

Ms. Gretchen Krug and Ms. Linda Groogan got grant approval from PTCO for all Science projects studying animals, insects, reptiles and fish. They will receive more grants during the next three years so students can experience hands-on in Science.

Ms. Suzi McGeath and her class has been in touch with several classes at Deer Run School and Riley Hospital through distance learning technology. They develop their own poems to share with hearing students there. They have also taught them several signs. They all have become pen pals.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our annual Parent/Teacher Conference night on November 4th, Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

You all are invited to watch the fourth and fifth graders play in the elementary gym on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and enjoy our great Italian dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. It is free for all. Please RSVP to Angie Smith, Secretary at 317 920 6260. Thanks.

## Kindergarten to Beasley's Apple Orchard

On Tuesday, our kindergarten class went to Beasley's Apple Orchard in Danville, IN (about 45 minutes west of Indy) to learn many things about apples. Each of us picked our own apple, and

discussed how apples are picked the right way. We saw a special three-legged ladder used especially for picking apples in the orchard. We saw where apples are preserved for a short time before packing for the market or pressed for cider. We went into a building to witness apples being washed and sorted for market or for cider. There, apples were measured: the larger ones were being packaged into boxes or bags for market and the smaller apples (important tool) were pressed to make apple cider. The tour ended up by consuming delicious cookies and cider. Some teachers went into the store and bought some apples, apple butter, and cider. The orchard carries Gala, Red Delicious, McIntosh, Cortland, Golden Delicious, and Mutsu apples. It was a learning experience for everyone who went there.

Dave Tester

## CONNER PRAIRIE

By: Laura Gaalema

The third, fourth, and fifth grade classes went to Conner Prairie on Thursday, October 21. We spent the day walking from cabin to cabin. Each cabin had a person "living" or "working" there, who dressed and acted as if it were really the 1800s. They talked about how they lived, worked, and cooperated with families during the 1800s. We were able to see and touch things from almost a hundred years ago. We compared tools and technology from long ago to the tools and technology of today. In the 1800s people used candles for light. They used a fireplace for cooking and for warmth. Long ago the people used horses and wagons for transportation. They did not use cars and airplanes to travel. They wrote letters on paper and sent them through the mail. They did not have computers and e-mail. Farmers in Indiana today grow corn and raise hogs. Farmers who lived in Indiana in the 1800s also grew corn and raised hogs. We all had a great time at Conner

Prairie and came back to school with a fresh perspective of how people lived and worked long ago.

## First Grade: *Marie Kellam-Cook*

We read the story Balloon Farm in Language Arts this week. We will be constructing a farm in our classroom. We discussed what is on a farm and what we should include on our farm.

We had a great trip to Stoney Creek. Thank you to all of my parents that sold items for our fundraiser. We had a pretty good turn out.

Next week will be a short week. Wednesday is a half-day of school, so please mark your calendar. I hope everyone has a great fall break.

## MATH CLUB NEWS

USC and Marie would like to welcome the following students into the math club. They are Maj Lesti, Meg Katter, Kate Fetzer, Jenna Smith, Hillary Peters, Ryan Abney, Tom Bergman, Keith Jones, Tyler Crace, Tony Dall, Scotty Grandt, Andy Kremer, Ann Whited, Gabriel Paulone, Will Fetzer, Nathan Cooley, Mignon Parks, Isaac Olvey, and Mark Alcozer. These students will be meeting every Monday from 3:00 to 4:00.

They will be working on games from the Math Pentathlon. The past two weeks have been very beneficial for the students.

We would like to thank everyone for their participation in the club.  
Thanks for the great turn-out.

## Suzi McGeath's Second Grade Class News

Wow! Our first experience with the "cyberspace" program was a blast! Our class was named "Fireballs" in ISD's Daily Campus Bulletin for doing a great job with our first Learning Distance Center project. We were hooked up with Deer Run Elementary school's and Riley Hospital's sites. Our first activity was called "Breaking the Ice". We did our ASL poetry through the video on-line. All three

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

sites prepared three questions to ask each other. It was interesting to learn that most of us enjoy collecting and playing "Pokemon". We learned that we liked and disliked similar cafeteria food. Riley Hospital children are lucky because they have a McDonald's in their cafeteria!

Our second project was supposed to be with Indianapolis Museum of Art and Deer Run Elementary school to learn about making an artistic symbol. Unfortunately, we were not able to receive the other sites' video pictures on-line. We were disappointed! Mr. Dan Stutler did his best in getting the technical problems resolved before our site time-slot began. We are going to try again next week.

Other than that, we have been studying about "Endangered Animals". We made our own books on specific endangered animals. You are welcome to read them when they are posted on our hallway bulletin board after our individual presentation. Be sure to take a good look as our books have many interesting facts and information.  
Enjoy your weekend!

## News from Lou and Sue

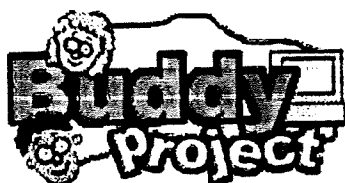
Our classes have been cooking breakfast foods. The students have been learning cooking and food vocabulary and how to follow directions. They cooked scrambled eggs and bacon and made an Egg McMuffin. Soon we will begin cooking lunch foods.

In math we have been doing a variety of activities. Daily we count our earned money, and we use the clocks to let us know to change classes. We have been creating unique patterns. All have enjoyed creating patterns for dancing and games. We have been learning about statistics also. We have been creating our own addition and subtraction problems and solving them. —

Our classes have made copy books. Copy books are similar to the literature books we have been reading except the characters and/or setting are



changed. Some have been very unique and quite interesting books.



Hello Buddy Parents!

How are the

computers doing at home? I want to let you know that we will have our first "Buddy Parent Night" on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. This is also the same night that you will meet with your child's teacher. This will be a special event to get to know each other, know about the program, software programs, small training session, selling a computer, meeting the buddy teachers, parent representative and myself as the coordinator. We will also be giving away free software. I strongly encourage you to attend to this meeting.

If your child is in the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> grade and has not gotten a buddy computer this would be a good opportunity to get a computer placed in your home.

If you are not able to come then you must make an effort to contact your teacher or me to make some kind of arrangements.

From: Mike Jackson, computer teacher

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Language Arts Class

Language Arts Teacher, Jeanne M. Peters

Resource Teacher, Kara A. Knebel

The past two weeks, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Language Arts class has been busy learning new words related to "Halloween" along with other activities. Each student has been incorporating these words such as black cat, pumpkin, spider etc. into their journal. They also heard a story called "The Witch Goes to School" signed by Jeanne. They enjoyed the witch's magic within a classroom.

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

On October 21<sup>st</sup>, we experienced a wonderful field trip at Conner Prairie. The students learned about how the pioneer dress, how they lived on a farm to produce their food, and raise farm animals. The students were disappointed about not getting a pumpkin but they still had a good time on the pioneer land.

As a reminder, all students will go home at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. They are looking forward to a long weekend. Have a great Fall Festival!

## Playwrights Wolfe's Third Grade

Some of the third grade students have been busy reading and writing plays. After reading and acting out the play Stone Soup in class, the students created a play to add on to the end of the story The Night of the Stars. The students each made a puppet to represent one character in their play. Then they agreed upon a setting and a plot. They each developed their own dialogue for their own character and agreed upon a sequence of events.



### Becki Philhower's Class News

Last week, the Elementary department had a real treat! We were able to see performance by Reed Steele, a fabulous mime from California. He worked with the students from third, fourth, and fifth grades to prepare a program, which the students did an excellent job performing! Then, he performed for us himself. All of my students were spellbound, watching him. They all laughed when he chose to use my glasses in one of his skits! This was a very enjoyable program, and we thank Jeff King for setting up this opportunity for us!

This week, we learned about maps, and map keys. We worked together as a group to make a map of our classroom. Each of the students participated in the activity, and did a wonderful job!

### CAMPBELL'S SOUP INFORMATION

Hello to Fall, and the cooler weather! This is the best time to use Campbell's products to warm us after a cool day at school and the office too! Please remember us when you do have soup and other Campbell's products. So far this year, very few labels have arrived. We are hoping for a big turnout! As soon as you can, please send in those that you have saved for us through the summer. Continue saving all year! Without your support, we can not succeed in this project! Thanks so much for your help!

Becki Philhower



### IDEAS FOR FALL ACTIVITIES AT HOME:

- 1) JUMP INTO LEAF PILE!
- 2) CARVE JACK-O-LANTERN!
- 3) TAKE A HIKE WITH MOM & DAD!
- 4) PLAY OUTSIDE!
- 5) EAT APPLES

Sami Krieger & Leah Grandt

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### October

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 26 | Indiana Museum of Art (4 <sup>th</sup> graders)<br>1:15-2:30 p.m.   |
| 27 | 12:30 p.m. dismissal for students/ 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Qtr Ends/ Report Card/Parent/Conf.<br>Day for staff |

#### November

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Citizenship Party 8:15-10:15 a.m.  |
| 2  | General Election Day (School in session - Holiday)   |
| 4  | Parent/Teacher Conference 6-8 p.m.   |
| 11 | Veterans' Day (School in session - Holiday)  |
| 12 | No Kindergarten Classes (Professional Training for Staff)                                  |
| 12 | 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders Drama Program<br>(Friday Night-Spaghetti Dinner) |
| 18 | PAC Meeting in Elementary Library at 3:15 p.m.   |
| 24 | Map Skills Celebration   |
| 24 | 12:30 p.m. dismissal for students and staff  |
| 29 | Classes resume at 8:00 a.m.  |

### PAC Meeting (Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>)

Believe it or not, we had our first meeting outside on the north side of playground. We covered the safety issues of our playground equipment and discussed our plan of action in replacing most of the playground equipment. We identified several areas that need to be address. We also looked at two different proposals from playground equipment companies and compared those. We hope to start our phase one in Spring of 2000. Our next meeting will be on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, Thursday from 3:15 to 4:00 p.m. in elementary library. See you there.

Library Main Bldg. Linda Carthy





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 5

November 5, 1999

David Geeslin



The month of November calls for the celebration of our students' achievements.

We will be celebrating 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders' learning experiences on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. The spaghetti dinner will be provided from 6 to 7 p.m. in Willard Cafeteria. A play will be presented by 4<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science classes beginning at 7 p.m. in the elementary gym.

We will also celebrate map skills of all elementary students on November 24<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Each student will show his/her new skills of interpreting map at his/her level. Please celebrate your child's new academic skills.

Linda Groogan and Gretchen Krug

The fifth grade science classes have been observing! What? We had 2 fish (dead), a gecko and a bird visit us. They helped us to observe features of vertebrates. We're also busy getting ready for our program on Nov. 12, titled "The Mad Scientist!"

Third grades are studying rocks. Did you know there are three kinds of rocks? (Sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic) Do you know how to classify rocks? (Color, streak, hardness)

We're still working on patterns too. Last week we ate patterns! This week we read them!

Fourth grades are studying nutrition and health in science. Through the use of the food pyramid, we'll be learning about fats, minerals, sugar, carbohydrates, vitamins and proteins. Be careful what you put on the table, we'll be checking for the five food groups!

An Experience Story by Andrew, Derek, Diannia, and Octavia

Teacher: What did you see at Conner Prairie?

Andrew: We saw many, many different buildings. They were really old. A man was cutting down trees.

Derek: Yes, he cut down trees. Then he would smooth the trees with a planer. I helped him.

Andrew: There was an old school. The teacher was a man. He was strict. The desks were two seats attached together in a long row. They had an old stove in the schoolhouse. The children or the teacher, I'm not sure, had to put wood inside the stove, and then they had to wait for the school to become warm. It would be really cold in winter.

Diannia: I loved the horses. They were beautiful.

Octavia: We visited one house where the woman was cooking. She used the fireplace. She made cornbread.



Andrew: We helped grind the corn. The woman had a bandage on her hand. She burned it.

Derek: A woman carried water in buckets on her shoulders.

Andrew: The children slept upstairs. They had to climb a ladder and sleep on a mattress on the floor.

Derek: They read stories by candlelight.

Diannia: The girls spun wool. They got the wool from the sheep.

Derek: Two girls played checkers.

Diannia: We visited the Doctor's house.

Octavia: Yes, outback of the big house was a small house. I asked Lou, "What is that?"

Lou told me to see for myself. I opened the door and did it stink. It was a cold wooden toilet with NO FLUSH!

Teacher: Did you enjoy the trip?

ALL: WE LOVED IT!

### Bono/Cooper's Second Grade Class

We have been learning about seed plants; roots, stems, and leaves; flowers, fruits, and cones; and how seeds travel. These topics have hands-on activities, such as displaying various fruit and vegetable seeds, and carrot for roots, stems and leaves. We have experimented with bean seeds for two weeks by putting them into our plastic bags for a few days. We observed them to see if they grew or not. When we opened our plastic bags, we found the bean seeds stinky and moldy. The students had to throw them away. This was a good experience for them to explore and discover. Last week the students wanted to plant bean seeds again. So we had other hands-on activity for bean seeds last Monday. They were excited because they wanted to see them grow. They were excited to check on their bean seeds daily. They will make their own charts to

### ISD Elementary Newsletter

mark the dates of bean seed growth on the bulletin board in the classroom. You are more than welcome to visit and look at their bean seeds!

The field trip to Stoney Creek Farm was a learning experience, and the students really enjoyed it. The diverse events were touring the haunted house, having a hayride, collecting small pumpkins, feeding and petting some animals, seeing three huge horses in a barn, and rolling down a hill for almost one hour. I also videotaped them. When we returned here, we watched the videotape immediately.

On Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, the students had a pumpkin activity. Students carved their pumpkin faces before cutting and removing pumpkin seeds. They were so excited because they wanted to show off their pumpkin faces. When finished, the students and four teachers were asked to estimate how many pumpkin seeds were from five little pumpkins. I wrote down their estimated numbers on the whiteboard. We counted 1,000 pumpkin seeds in five small pumpkins. They paused in surprise because they had underestimated the number. MJ's estimated number was correct. Have you counted your pumpkin seeds yet? Let us know how many seeds you counted last week.

Next week on Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> we are looking forward to going to the Scholastic Book Fair.

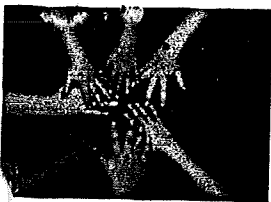
### November

11	Scholastic Book Fair
12	Veterans' Day (School in session - Holiday)
13	No Kindergarten Classes (Professional Training for Staff)
14	4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders Drama Program (Friday Night-Spaghetti Dinner)
15	PAC Meeting in Elementary Library at 3:15 p.m.
24	Map Skills Celebration 9:00-10:30 a.m.
24	12:30 p.m. dismissal for students and staff
29	Classes resume at 8:00 a.m.

Main Library

Wilde County





# Elementary Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 7

December 3, 1999

David Geeslin

On Thanksgiving's Day, I was thinking about you parents who have dedicated your time to read with your children and made an effort to learn American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate with your children so they could succeed in their academic areas. I have shared this with some of our faculty. They said that they do see a big difference in students' academic performance when their parents communicate in ASL and take time to read stories to them. At that point, I realized how fortunate we are to have you who do that. We are thankful. We would like to encourage you parents who do not know ASL to take classes at ISD. They are free. It means a lot to your child and it shows you value education. The best way to communicate your values and beliefs is through the child's most accessible language. For class times and information, please call Ms. Angie Smith at 920-6260 TTY/Relay 1-800-743-3333.



We regret to let you know that two events will be cancelled this year. They are Spelling Skills Celebration and the Roller Skating event. The dates are Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> and Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

\*\*\*\*\*

There are new 800 phone numbers for Outreach and PIP.

Outreach 1-800-722-6166

PIP 1-800-724-9550

FYI: These numbers are only good within the state of Indiana.

## Wolfe's Language Arts' Classes

### Third Grade Students

This class is currently surfing the net, flipping through pages in encyclopedias, and reading a variety of books while they prepare research reports on ants.

### Fourth Grade Students

You could say that Cody, Chris, and Terris are hooked on reading. They've been reading stories related to fishing.



### Fifth Grade Students

Detective Nukeitra, Inspector Holly, and Assistant Mollie are on the trail of something good—mystery stories! While reading different mysteries, the girls have gone on a scavenger hunt, designed a treasure hunt for their peers, played the Clue game, and earned a lunch from Wendy's, which currently has Clue game pieces in their Kid's meals. The girls are currently writing persuasive letters, trying to convince the elementary staff to change the lunch menu and add recess to the Friday afternoon schedule.



Linda Groogan and Gretchen Krug

Fifth grade Science classes are cruising the internet, books, and our museum for old Science tools and pictures. We're also setting up a PowerPoint Presentation titled, "What will Science look like in 2050?" All of this info will be available for our Millennium Celebration in January! We've also begun studying systems of the body. How many bones in your body? Ask a fifth grader! (206)

Fourth Grade classes are completing their study of food groups. Ask them about a balanced meal. They will soon begin the study of earth formations and fossils.

Third grade students are completing their unit on rocks. They will soon be making models of the earth. In math, we're working on estimation and probability.

### Becki Philhower's Class News

Happy December to you all! My students are very excited about Christmas, and are ready to make up their lists for Santa! We have some secret projects in the works for our parents, plus some exciting stories related to the season. We recently celebrated Joshua's birthday, and next week will celebrate Monica Byrum's birthday as well as Marie Cook's birthday. One of our favorite things to do in reading class is to follow the recipes to make our friends their birthday cake or birthday brownies. Each of the students gets the opportunity to measure an ingredient to put in the bowl, as well as assist in stirring. We watch the timer carefully, so we take the pan out of the oven before it burns!

## ISD Elementary Newsletter

Perhaps we will bake something for our parents one of these days!

### CAMPBELL'S SOUP INFORMATION

It's December, and so far this year, we have not had very chilly weather. We are slowly receiving soup labels from family members. Recently, we received a large package of labels from the Pastor Maas and the Lutheran Church members who teach church school to our students here in ISD Elementary department. We thank them very much for their support! Remember, with all the holiday cooking, check your labels for Campbell's products. We save all Campbell's labels, not only those from soup! Thanks again and Happy Holidays to you all!

### News from Room #469 Sue Jones & Lou Ott

Last Wednesday we celebrated our knowledge of maps. We made a map of Indiana with long ago trails and today's highways and interstates. Some of us drew pictures of ways people traveled long ago and today. Some of us looked in magazines to find these same pictures. We displayed our work in the gym!

We are getting ready for the holidays. One group has been staining wood boxes. When the stain is set we'll put tile on the top to make a design. The boxes will be presents for our families. Another group is making cookies and good things to eat. We will share these goodies with family and friends. We are learning everyday about sharing with others and being kind to people we know.

### 3

In math Sue's class is working on numbers with two digits. They are learning to expand these numbers. For example the number 49 when expanded would be written like this:

$$\begin{array}{r} 40 \\ 9 \end{array}$$

The students are using manipulatives to learn to write these numbers.

Lou's class is learning to measure by cups, so we are doing a lot of cooking activities. We measured flour, sugar, salt and vanilla to make cookies. We also measured water and oil and added eggs to the mix to make brownies. The best part is getting to eat what we made!

#### Suzi McGeath's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class News

Our class really enjoyed looking at the different map skills that each grade displayed at the Map Celebration! Last Tuesday, on November 30<sup>th</sup>, our class had a great time with the Learning Distance Center project with Riley Hospital and Deer Run School. Our pre-activity was using our computers to learn about the country, India. We also used library books to do some research on India. At the Distance Learning Center (DLC), we had an India dancer who showed us how the India dancers use their body to communicate their stories. We watched her dance into two stories that are 2500 years old. We were fascinated with her body movements and the stories. Our post activities will involve each site creating our own body movements and do reflections on what we learned from the India dancer. Our next DLC event will happen on Thursday, December 16, 1999. We will be showing our body movements to certain words.

### ISD Elementary Newsletter

Also, we will study about Hanukkah and share our learning with Riley Hospital and Deer Run. Riley Hospital will study about Christmas and Deer Run will learn about Kwanzaa. We continue to look forward celebrate learning in an exciting way, through cyberspace.

Have a GREAT weekend!



#### Upcoming Event at ISD

*What: Sibling Workshop*

*Who: Age 8-13*

*When: Jan. 22 at 10-2 pm*

*Where: MPR, Ps bldg.1*

*RSVP: Jan. 14 to Diane Hazel Jones*

#### Laura Gaalema's language class news

My classes have been reading books by Marc Brown involving an aardvark named Authur and his little sister, D.W., and his friends. We've been describing and comparing the various characters in the books. The first book we read was "Authur's Pet Business". We talked about various businesses and then started our own! Our business ads are posted in the hallway-let us know if you want to use one of our "businesses"!!

#### December Events:

17<sup>th</sup>

Early Dismissal at  
12:30 p.m.

20-31

Winter Break

Linda Canty  
Main Bldg. Library